

19-1
SEPTEMBER 12, 1968

PEOPLE in the News

Security Upsets Ray, Hanes Says

The chief attorney for the man charged with murder in the death of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. says his client may be unable to face a Nov. 12 trial in Memphis because of the mental upset of intense security over a prolonged period.

In an interview yesterday in Birmingham, Arthur Hanes Sr. said James Earl Ray has undergone "enough to bug anybody" during his confinement in jails in London and Memphis.

"You have to remember ever since June 8 he has had two people breathing down his neck 24 hours around the clock," said Hanes.

Ray was returned to the United States on July 19 from England and has been confined in the county jail at Memphis since.

"He's in that nice jail in Shelby County and they have bright lights shining on him night and day," said Hanes.

He said the present conditions threaten Ray's health, and he is preparing a motion asking that the situation be changed before the trial.

'SIRHAN QUOTE FALSE'

The attorney for Sirhan Bishara Sirhan denies a published report that Sirhan would say he shot Sen. Robert F. Kennedy and explain why if his trial received national television coverage.

Russell E. Parsons, who is defending the 24-year-old Jor-

danian accused of murdering Kennedy, said in Los Angeles that Sirhan "made no such statement." Sirhan has pleaded innocent.

The report, published in Ramparts Magazine, was written by Mahmoud Abdel-Hadi, an Egyptian correspondent for Akhbar Elyoum in Cairo.